

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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FM AMCONSUL PERTH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0631

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS PERTH 0209

E.I. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP/XE

SUBJECT: HOUSE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE CODEL

REF: (A) STATE 180205 (B) CANBERRA 5068

1. BELIEVE FOLLOWING FACTORS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO
CONSIDERATION WHETHER TO INCLUDE PERTH IN ITINERARY
AUSTRALIA:

(A) AIR TRAVEL FROM EASTERN STATES TO WESTERN AUSTRALIAN
MINING AREAS WOULD REQUIRE FIVE DAYS MINIMUM. BECAUSE OF
SCHEDULES AND REGIONAL TIME DIFFERENCES, AUSTRALIAN
TRANSCONTINENTAL AIR TRAVEL COULD NOT BE CONVENIENTLY DONE
IN LESS THAN ONE DAY EACH WAY. AIR TRAVEL FROM PERTH TO
IRON ORE SHIPPING PORTS IN NORTHWEST REQUIRES ONE DAY
EACH WAY, AND ROUND TRIP BY CHARTER PLANE BETWEEN PORT AND
MINING TOWN WOULD TAKE ADDITIONAL DAY.

(B) FIVE DAY TOTAL COULD BE REDUCED TO FOUR BY USING PERTH
AS POINT OF DEPARTURE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO S.E.A.

(C) MEAN MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE NOV/DEC IN MINING AREAS
ABOUT 95 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

(D) EXCEPT FOR BAUXITE AND COAL CLOSER TO PERTH, MINING
ACTIVITIES IN W.A. ARE MAINLY IN NORTHWEST AND KALGOORLIE
AREAS.

(E) RELATIVE ISOLATION OF MINING AREAS IN W.A. REDUCES

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RELEVANCY OF THEIR MINING/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS TO THOSE

IN U.S.

(F) RELATIONSHIP OF MINING ACTIVITIES TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IS BELIEVED TO BE MUCH THE SAME IN AUSTRALIAN EASTERN STATES MINING AREAS AS IN W.A.

2. IN VIEW OF ABOVE CONSULATE BELIEVES THAT INCLUSION OF VISIT TO W.A. AND MINING AREAS WOULD BE TIME CONSUMING AND NOT OF SUFFICIENT VALUE TO WARRANT FOUR/FIVE DAYS REQUIRED. IF CODEL WISHES ONLY DISCUSSION MINING/ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS RATHER THAN INSPECTION, MINING COMPANY AND STATE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN PERTH WOULD BE ABLE AND WILLING TO PROVIDE. IN THIS CASE INCLUSION OF PERTH FOR TWO DAY STOPOVER WOULD BE PLEASANT AND REASONABLY INFORMATIVE. PLEASE ADVISE DECISION.

3. PROGRAM IN PERTH COULD BE

(A) FIRST DAY:

MORNING - CALLS ON AND DISCUSSIONS WITH STATE MINISTER OF MINES, AND WITH CHAMBER OF MINES;
AFTERNOON - VISIT TO ALCOA REFINERY AT KWINANA AND MINE AT PINJARRA;
EVENING - RECEPTION BY CONSUL.

(B) SECOND DAY:

MORNING - DISCUSSIONS WITH MAIN ROADS DEPARTMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY;
AFTERNOON - GOLF;
EVENING - FREE.
BRUNS

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